Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, The National Braille Association, founded in 1945, is a non-profit, volunteer organization founded by sighted students of a teacher of Braille in New York City, and its membership is currently comprised of 2,000 active volunteer transcribers and others engaged in related service to the visually impaired; and,

Whereas, The aim of this organization is to direct services to readers and to assist transcribers in providing services through information and exchange of ideas and technical skills, and to ensure that the visually impaired have access to the same printed materials that are available to the sighted; and,

Whereas, The mission of this organization is two-fold: to serve the visually impaired by providing continuing education assistance to a nationwide network of certified transcribers of braille, and to maintain a resource for the production of books, especially textbooks, in braille; and,

Whereas, The National Braille Association will celebrate its 60th Anniversary at conferences in Dallas, Texas, on April 11-16, 2005, and in Seattle, Washington, on October 17-22, 2005:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim April 11-16, 2005, as

NATIONAL BRAILLE WEEK

in South Dakota, and I urge interested citizens to participate in this observance.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-first Day of March in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State